



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

April 8, 2002

H.R. 3958

Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge Settlement Act of 2002

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Resources on March 20, 2002

H.R. 3958 would satisfy the federal requirements under a land claim settlement agreement between the Department of the Interior (DOI) and the state of Utah. That agreement would settle a historic dispute over the boundaries of the Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge in Utah. H.R. 3958 specifies certain terms and conditions to be included in the agreement and would require Utah to deliver a quitclaim deed covering all land and interests within the refuge claimed by the state in exchange for a federal payment of \$15 million. The bill would authorize the appropriation of that amount to the Secretary of the Interior to make that payment.

Based on information from DOI, CBO estimates that implementing this legislation would cost \$15 million in 2003, assuming appropriation of the authorized amount. The bill would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. H.R. 3958 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments. Any costs resulting from the settlement agreement would be incurred voluntarily by the state as a party to that agreement.

The CBO staff contacts for this estimate are Deborah Reis (for federal costs) and Marjorie Miller (for the state and local impact). This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.